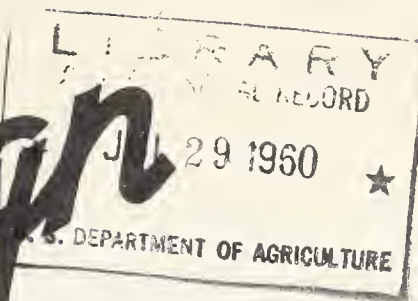


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Foreign



CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JULY 25, 1960

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CONTENTS

NUMBER 4

PAGE

COTTON

U. S. Cotton Exports Continue Heavy Through May	20
U. S. Cotton Linters Exports in May Show Decline	22
Hong Kong Imports More U. S. Cotton	22

DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Venezuela Tightens Dry Whole Milk Import Requirements	7
Philippine Secretary of Agriculture Urges Dairy Subsidy	12
Rise in Swedish Milk Output Continues.....	17

FATS, OILSEEDS, AND OILS

Argentina Plans on Flaxseed Exports; Reduces Export Taxes on Edible Oils	18
Philippine Copra and Coconut Oil Exports Up One-half in First Half of Year	19
Colombia Encourages Oil Palm and Coconut Expansion	20
Suez Canal Soybean Shipments Sizable Again in March	23

FOREIGN TRADE DEVELOPMENTS

Cuban Foreign Trade Bank Now Sole Importer of Many Products	2
Independent Mali Is Major World Source of Peanuts	10

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS

Mexican Winter Vegetable Season Ends	5
Yugoslav and French Dried Prune Packs Smaller This Season	10
U. S. and Competing Canned Fruit and Juice Prices in London	12

GRAINS, FEEDS, SEEDS, AND HOPS

Philippine Flour Mill To Increase Production.....	8
West Germany Sets New Basic Prices for Imported Wheat.....	14
U. S. Wheat and Flour Exports Continue Uptrend Through May	14
U. S. Grass and Legume Seed Exports Unusually Large in May	16
Cuba Buys Part of Its First-Quarter Rice Quota	16

(Continued on following page)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS

New Livestock Feed Plant Opens in Brazil	6
U. K. Lard Imports Continue at High Level in May	6
Dominion Wool Prices Down Slightly in June	7
U. S. Exports of Livestock Products Higher in January-May 1960	8
African Swine Fever Strikes Spain; Horse Disease Hits Near East . .	13

SUGAR, FIBERS, AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS

Uganda Reduces Coffee Price.	11
Mexican Henequen Exports in First Quarter 1960 Less Than Year Ago. .	11
Thailand Approves Rubber Replanting Act.	20

TOBACCO

Portugal's Tobacco Imports Decline A Little.	3
U. S. Tobacco Exports Down Slightly in May	4
Irish Tobacco Consumption Stable	5

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CUBAN FOREIGN TRADE BANK NOW SOLE
IMPORTER OF MANY PRODUCTS

Announcement was made July 16 that a Ministry of Commerce resolution No. 295 designates the Cuban Foreign Trade Bank (BANCEC) as the sole importer of a long list of products. The resolution is under the authority of Law 793 of 1960.

The agricultural items included in this resolution are: Lard, bacon, edible oils, salt pork, condensed and evaporated milk, butter, wheat and wheat flour, rice, beans, lentils, peas, chickpeas, corn, potatoes, onions, garlic, raw cotton, calfskins without hair, and unplanned pine lumber.

The industrial items cover a wide range of products, including the following commodities of interest to agriculture: Fertilizers, jute sugar and coffee sacks, insecticides and fungicides, agricultural machines and implements, including parts and accessories, sugar mill machinery and apparatus, and plywood.

PORTUGAL'S TOBACCO IMPORTS
DECLINE A LITTLE

Portugal's imports of unmanufactured tobacco dropped slightly last year--to 12.2 million pounds from 12.5 million in 1958. Imports from the United States at 6.4 million pounds in 1959 compared with 6.7 million in 1958. The U. S. share in the Portuguese tobacco market, which was as high as 70 percent in 1955, dropped to 52.5 percent last year.

Price considerations have caused the 2 manufacturing companies in Portugal to import more leaf from outside the United States. Purchases from Greece, Italy, and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland have been increased in recent years although they were a little lower in 1959 than in 1958. The biggest 1959 increase over 1958, however, was in purchases of Mozambique leaf. As an overseas province of Portugal, Mozambique is granted a concessional rate of duty.

Average prices paid for 1959 imports from principal suppliers, in terms of U. S. cents per pound, were as follows: United States, 55.9 cents; Greece, 27.4 cents; Italy, 44.4 cents; Mozambique, 34.8 cents; Rhodesias-Nyasaland, 33.3 cents.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Portugal, imports by country of origin, quantity and average price, 1958 and 1959

Origin	1958		1959	
	Quantity	Average price 1/	Quantity	Average price 1/
	1,000 pounds	U.S. cents per pound	1,000 pounds	U.S. cents per pound
United States.....	6,673	57.6	6,429	55.9
Greece.....	1,742	23.5	1,675	27.4
Italy.....	1,638	42.6	1,336	44.4
Mozambique.....	265	38.3	800	34.8
Rhodesias-Nyasaland..	606	31.7	485	33.3
Angola.....	375	20.0	322	21.5
Algeria.....	295	19.7	302	19.1
Dominican Republic..	260	27.7	236	24.2
Canada.....	265	46.6	183	55.4
Others.....	421	37.3	468	32.8
Total.....	12,540	45.7	12,236	45.2

1/ Converted at 1 escudo = 3.5 U.S. cents.

National Institute of Statistics.

U. S. TOBACCO EXPORTS DOWN SLIGHTLY IN MAY

U. S. exports of unmanufactured tobacco totaled 23.4 million pounds in May 1960--6 percent less than in May a year ago. The value, at \$17.7 million, was 6.3 percent below May 1959.

Exports of flue-cured were nearly 10 percent below those of May 1959, but Burley shipments (2.2 million) were more than twice as large as those of last May. Gains were also recorded for Virginia fire-cured, Maryland, Black Fat, and Cigar wrapper.

For the first 11 months of fiscal 1960, exports totaled 427.1 million pounds--down 4.6 percent from the first 11 months of fiscal 1959. For the first 5 months of calendar 1960, exports were 114.1 million pounds--down 10 percent from 126.8 million pounds shipped out in January-May 1959.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: U. S. exports, by types and export weight, May and January-May 1959 and 1960, with percentage change

Type	May		Percent change	January-May		Percent change
	1959	1960		1959	1960	
	:1,000	:1,000	:	:1,000	:1,000	:
	:pounds	:pounds	:Percent	:pounds	:pounds	:Percent
Flue-cured.....	19,984	18,046	-9.7	92,094	85,024	-7.7
Burley.....	1,087	2,227	+104.9	11,716	10,707	-8.6
Dark-fired Ky.-Tenn.....	1,469	548	-62.7	7,797	6,893	-11.6
Va. fire-cured ^{1/}	216	232	+7.4	2,267	1,583	-30.2
Maryland.....	556	733	+31.8	4,265	3,552	-16.7
Green River.....	2	--	--	562	560	-.4
One Sucker.....	34	--	--	1,684	174	--
Black Fat, etc.....	423	442	+4.5	1,796	1,953	+8.7
Cigar wrapper.....	368	424	+15.2	2,049	1,710	-16.5
Cigar binder.....	633	415	-34.4	1,469	700	-52.3
Cigar filler.....	--	229	--	252	266	+5.6
Other.....	179	141	-21.2	888	953	+7.3
Total.....	24,951	23,437	-6.1	126,839	114,075	-10.0
	:Million	:Million	:	:Million	:Million	:
	:dollars	:dollars	:Percent	:dollars	:dollars	:Percent
Declared value.....	18.9	17.7	-6.3	91.8	83.8	-8.7

^{1/} Includes sun-cured.
Bureau of the Census.

U. S. exports of tobacco products in May 1960 were valued at \$8.7 million--up 14.5 percent from May 1959. For the period January-May 1960, the value of tobacco product exports, at \$37.6 million, was about 4 percent larger than for the first 5 months a year ago.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS: U. S. exports, May and January-May 1959 and 1960, with percentage change

Products and value	May		:Percent: :change	January-May		:Percent: :change
	: 1959	: 1960		: 1959	: 1960	
Cigars and cheroots	:	:	:	:	:	:
(1,000 pieces).....	:2,150	: 1,636	: -23.9	: 5,648	: 9,913	: +75.5
Cigarettes	:	:	:	:	:	:
(million pieces).....	:1,621	: 1,813	: +11.8	: 7,477	: 7,752	: +3.7
Chewing and snuff	:	:	:	:	:	:
(1,000 pounds).....	: 54	: 55	: +1.9	: 399	: 359	: -10.0
Smoking tobacco in pkgs.	:	:	:	:	:	:
(1,000 pounds).....	: 54	: 93	: +72.2	: 268	: 353	: +31.7
Smoking tobacco in bulk	:	:	:	:	:	:
(1,000 pounds).....	: 557	: 708	: +27.1	: 3,700	: 3,308	: -10.6
Total declared value	:	:	:	:	:	:
(million dollars).....	: 7.6	: 8.7	: +14.5	: 36.2	: 37.6	: +3.9

IRISH TOBACCO CONSUMPTION STABLE

Irish consumption of tobacco products in 1959 stayed close to the 1958 level. Cigarette sales totaled 10.4 million pounds--only about 1 percent larger than in 1958. Consumption of pipe tobacco, snuff, and cigars also was about the same as in the previous year.

Factory usings of leaf tobacco, however, have fallen off in recent years owing to (1) a sharp drop in cigarette exports, and (2) consumer resistance to higher retail prices, following increases in tobacco import duties and in manufacturers' costs. Exports of Irish-made cigarettes dropped from 1,268,000 pounds in 1956 to only 118,000 pounds in 1959. Retail prices of cigarettes averaged about 43 cents per pack in 1959, 66 percent higher than the average for 1953.

MEXICAN WINTER VEGETABLE SEASON ENDS

The following winter vegetables from the west coast of Mexico crossed the border at Nogales, Arizona, at the season's end--June 16 to June 30, 1960 (in thousands of pounds). Comparable figures for last year are shown in parentheses: cantaloupes 648, (32); green corn 3, (0); garlic 161 (0); peppers 12, (0); pineapples 14, (0); squash 15, (0); tomatoes 600, (118); and watermelons 11,214, (159).

NEW LIVESTOCK FEED PLANT OPENS IN BRAZIL

A new plant to process castor bean byproducts into high-protein livestock feed was opened recently in Pernambuco, Brazil.

This plant has succeeded in eliminating the toxic element from castor beans to produce a feed very high in protein and reportedly palatable to livestock (see Foreign Crops and Markets, July 11, 1960 with an annual capacity of 88 million pounds of feed, the plant is expected to contribute significantly to livestock production in Brazil.

U.K. LARD IMPORTS CONTINUE AT HIGH LEVEL IN MAY

Lard imports into the United Kingdom in May 1960 totaled 38.8 million pounds, compared with 15.9 million in May 1959. Imports in January-May 1960 were 79 percent higher than a year earlier. The U.S. share of the market in the first 5 months of 1960 was 81 percent, compared with 59 percent last year. France has been the only other major supplier to increase its shipments to the U.K. market this year.

The high level of shipments despite higher U.S. prices reflects the strong demand for lard on the British market. The price of U.S. loose lard in mid-July was 9.5 cents per pound, compared with 7.0 cents at the beginning of the year.

LARD: United Kingdom imports by country of origin and country percentage of total, January-May 1959 and 1960

Origin	January-May		January-May	
	1959		1960	
	Quantity	Percentage	Quantity	Percentage
	: of total	:	: of total	:
	<u>1,000 lb.</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>1,000 lb.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
United States.....	65,061	59.2	160,634	81.4
France.....	15,909	14.5	20,096	10.2
Belgium.....	8,209	7.5	2,639	1.4
Denmark.....	8,507	7.7	5,372	2.7
Netherlands.....	6,365	5.8	4,482	2.3
Canada.....	3,656	3.3	1,585	0.8
Sweden.....	2,139	2.0	1,981	1.0
Others.....	134	--	429	0.2
Total.....	109,980	100.0	197,218	100.0

U. S. Packers Provision Agents' Committee.

DOMINION WOOL PRICES DOWN SLIGHTLY IN JUNE

With the 1959-60 wool selling season rapidly coming to a close, Dominion wool prices for most types in June were the same as in May.

Fine wools, however, continued to decline. Since sales were limited to the Australian auctions, prices for coarse wools were nominal. Compared with June 1959, prices were higher for all types of wool, but were only slightly above the season's low point reached in February.

Wool prices during the season (July-June) were more stable than in recent years, reflecting a leveling-off of world demand following the sharp rise of early 1959.

WOOL: Clean cost per pound, c.i.f. United Kingdom, based on auction sales in Dominions 1/ and London, specified months

Grade	1959	1960					
	June	Feb.	March	April	May	June <u>2/</u>	
70's.....	1.11	1.13	1.16	1.21	1.16	1.14	
64's.....	1.06	1.06	1.09	1.16	1.09	1.07	
60's.....	.99	.99	1.02	1.06	1.00	1.00	
58's.....	.93	.95	.97	.99	.95	.95	
56's.....	.81	.90	.97	.96	.93	<u>3/</u> .93	
50's.....	.75	.83	.85	.88	.86	<u>3/</u> .86	
48's.....	.72	.81	.83	.82	.79	<u>3/</u> .79	
46's.....	.71	.79	.82	.79	.78	<u>3/</u> .78	

1/ Includes Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. 2/ Australian sales only. 3/ Nominal quotations.

New Zealand Wool Commission (London Agency).

VENEZUELA TIGHTENS DRY WHOLE MILK IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

Effective June 23, 1960, Venezuelan importers of dry whole milk will be required to purchase 1 unit of domestically produced dry whole milk for every 4 units imported in order to be exonerated from the import duty.

This action was taken only about 2 weeks after the ratio of 4.5:1 had been put into effect (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 30, 1960).

PHILIPPINE FLOUR MILL TO INCREASE PRODUCTION

Republic Flour Mills, the Philippines first and largest wheat flour mill, will soon be able to supply 75 percent of the country's wheat flour needs, according to a Philippine press report. Jose Concepcion, Jr., general manager, says the mill's new extension, opening this month, will increase local flour production 40,000 long tons annually. And with their present 50,000-ton mill, Republic will produce 400,000 50-pound bags of flour a month.

Nine more silos for wheat grain storage will be added to present facilities. The silo extension will enable Republic to store 20,000 tons of wheat grain, and supply the country's two mills with 90,000 tons of wheat a year.

Besides Republic Flour Mills, the Philippines has the Wellington Flour Mill with a capacity of 40,000 tons annually. Two more mills are now under construction and are expected to be in operation early in 1961. Liberty Flour Mill is located in Manila, while the General Milling Corporation is in Cebu. This will give the Philippines a flour production capacity greater than present needs.

U.S. EXPORTS OF LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS HIGHER IN JANUARY-MAY 1960

During the first 5 months of 1960, U.S. exports of animal fats, red meats, variety meats, and bovine hides and skins were considerably above year-earlier levels.

However, May exports of red meats and skins were lower than a year earlier, and the gains registered by all other categories except uncanned sausage were small. The slackening rate of livestock product exports in May reflected the rising prices of some commodities--particularly lard and other pork products.

Gains in January-May 1960 exports have been particularly sharp for inedible tallow and greases, cattle hides, variety meats, and lard. Continued low prices and larger supplies have boosted exports of tallow--particularly to Japan and the Netherlands. These markets also accounted for most of the rise in cattle hide exports.

U.K. and French liberalization of imports from the dollar area has aided variety meat exports. Larger lard shipments are primarily a result of strong U. K. demand. Exports to Cuba also held up well during the first 5 months of this year. The United Kingdom and Cuba accounted for 92 percent of May lard exports.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: U.S. exports of selected items, May 1959 and 1960 and January-May 1959 and 1960, with percentage change

(Product weight basis)

Commodity	May		Percent change	January-May		Percent change
	1959	1960		1959	1960	
	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
	pounds	pounds	Percent	pounds	pounds	Percent
Lard.....	45,163	49,825	+10	226,992	280,545	+24
Inedible tallow & greases 1/.....	106,844	152,316	+43	532,578	780,412	+47
Edible tallow & greases 2/.....	1,864	2,092	+12	6,745	7,810	+16
Meat:						
Beef and veal.....	2,283	2,061	-10	9,562	11,554	+21
Pork.....	5,708	5,948	+4	27,441	31,219	+14
Lamb and mutton.....	93	136	+46	312	528	+69
Sausage:						
Except canned.....	160	388	+143	901	1,022	+13
Canned.....	113	68	-40	527	457	-13
Baby food, canned.....	390	157	-60	763	974	+28
Other canned meats.....	352	111	-68	1,744	879	-50
Total red meat.....	9,099	8,869	-3	41,250	46,633	+13
Variety meats.....	7,439	8,063	+8	36,359	47,825	+32
Sausage casings:						
Hog.....	1,344	648	-52	4,332	3,634	-16
Other natural.....	620	344	-45	2,608	2,142	-18
Mohair.....	1,169	901	-23	8,899	7,255	-18
Hides and skins (1,000 pcs.)						
Cattle.....	459	490	+7	1,834	2,514	+37
Calf.....	164	138	-16	609	730	+20
Kip.....	61	23	-62	227	160	-30
Sheep and lamb.....	179	144	-20	774	728	-6

1/ Includes inedible tallow, oleic acid or red oil, stearic acid, and other inedible animal greases, fats, and oils. 2/ Includes edible tallow, oleo oil and stearin, oleo stock and shortenings, animal fat, excluding lard.

U.S. Department of Commerce.

YUGOSLAV AND FRENCH DRIED PRUNE PACKS SMALLER THIS SEASON

The 1960 Yugoslav dried prune pack will be sharply lighter than the bumper 1959 pack. It is tentatively forecast at 15,000 short tons, compared with the 5-year (1953-57) average of 21,200 tons. The 1959 pack is now estimated by the Yugoslav Government at 58,300 short tons.

The preliminary forecast of the 1960 French dried prune pack is 6,000 short tons. This is well below the 10,000 ton estimate of the 1959 pack and also below the 5-year average of 7,700 tons.

INDEPENDENT MALI IS MAJOR WORLD SOURCE OF PEANUTS

Mali, which became fully independent June 20, 1960, is one of the world's largest exporters of peanuts. In some recent years it has been the largest; in others, it has been second to Nigeria. It also exports flour, hides and skins, and other agricultural products.

Mali is a federation of Senegal and Soudan, 2 of the 8 territories which made up the former federation of French West Africa. It extends from the Atlantic Ocean at Dakarfar into the Sahara.

In 1959, Mali exported 317,000 short tons of shelled peanuts; 109,000 short tons of raw peanut oil; 16,500 short tons of refined peanut oil; and 169,000 short tons of peanut oil cake. In all, exports of peanuts and peanut products were valued at \$1.3 million, or 87 percent of all exports, agricultural and nonagricultural.

Agricultural exports also included 4,700 short tons of gum arabic, worth \$1.5 million, 13,300 short tons of wheat flour worth \$1.5 million, 2,500 short tons of hides and skins valued at \$1.3 million, and 3,300 short tons of palm kernels worth \$400,000. France is Mali's best customer.

These export statistics are from Etat des Importations (Commerce Special). They also include the data for the neighboring autonomous Republic of Mauritania, whose agricultural exports are chiefly gum arabic and hides and skins.

Mali (and Mauritania) imported agricultural products in 1959 totaling \$60 million. Included were sugar, rice, wheat (for the flour mills at Dakar), tea, milk, wines, millet and sorghum, and a variety of other products. France was the chief supplier.

Mali and Mauritania exported \$260,000 worth of hides and skins to the United States in 1959. Imports from the United States included \$1.6 million worth of rice, \$700,000 corn, and \$600,000 grain sorghums. In some years Mali is a good customer for U.S. wheat.

UGANDA REDUCES COFFEE PRICE

The Uganda Government has announced a reduction in the guaranteed price for Robusta coffee; effective July 4, 1960.

This reduction, amounting to about 16 percent, was prompted by a continuing decline in world prices for Uganda-type coffee. The new guaranteed price, clean basis, is £ 145 per ton (18.2 U. S. cents per pound) at Mombasa.

MEXICAN HENEQUEN EXPORTS IN FIRST QUARTER 1960 LESS THAN YEAR AGO

Exports of henequen and henequen products from Yucatan, Mexico, totaled 70.7 million pounds in January-March 1960, compared with 75.0 million in the corresponding period of 1959. Yucatan grows and exports most of Mexico's henequen.

Sizable increases in exports of twines and other products were not equal to the decrease of 13.3 million pounds in fiber.

Domestic shipments of fiber from Yucatan to other parts of Mexico were only 476,000 pounds, in contrast to 1,466,000 in January-March 1959.

Mexico: Exports of henequen fiber and products from
Yucatan, January-March 1959 and 1960

Commodity and country of destination	January-March	
	1959	1960
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
Henequen fiber:		
United States.....	29,118	13,009
Costa Rica.....	200	100
Japan.....	0	2,612
Other.....	0	323
Total.....	29,318	16,044
Henequen products:		
Baler twine.....	27,296	34,538
Binder twine.....	5,133	4,590
Other cordage.....	9,956	11,734
Other manufactures and products...	3,256	3,804

Compiled from shipping records from Progreso, Yucatan, Mexico.

PHILIPPINE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE URGES DAIRY SUBSIDY

A Philippine press report quotes Jose M. Trinidad, the country's Acting Secretary of Agriculture, as saying that a multi-million peso government subsidy for the dairy industry would cut down, and eventually eliminate, the Philippines annual \$45-million imports of dairy and meat products.

The acting secretary feels the country is well adapted to dairying. He pointed to wide open grasslands in Mountain Province, Cotabato, Bukidnon, and other provinces as being favorable areas for dairy farms.

A measure appropriating 60 million pesos (\$30 million) for the local dairy industry failed to pass during the last regular session of the Philippine congress. It was, however, recommended for approval at that time by the committee on agriculture in the lower House.

U.S. AND COMPETING CANNED FRUIT AND JUICE PRICES IN LONDON

London prices--landed duty-paid--of selected canned fruits and canned juices in early June 1960 were quoted as follows:

Type and quality	Origin	Units	London price
		<u>Per dozen</u>	<u>U.S. dol.</u>
CANNED FRUIT			
Apricots:			
Halves, choice.....	South Africa	No. 2½ cans	3.01
Peaches:			
Halves, choice freestone.....	South Africa	No. 2½ cans	3.08
Halves, standard cling.....	Australia	No. 2½ cans	3.32
Slices 1/.....	Australia	No. 2½ cans	3.45
Pears, standard 1/.....	Australia	No. 2½ cans	3.60
Pineapple, slices 1/.....	South Africa	20 oz.	2.03
Grapefruit sections, fancy.....	United States	No. 303 cans	2.52
Fruit Cocktail:			
Choice.....	United States	No. 303 cans	3.01
Choice.....	United States	8 oz.	1.72
CANNED JUICE, SINGLE-STRENGTH			
Orange juice.....	U.S. (Florida)	6 oz.	.91
Do.	U.S. (Florida)	20 oz.	2.00
Grapefruit juice.....	U.S. (Florida)	20 oz.	1.77
Pineapple juice.....	South Africa	20 oz.	1.47

1/ Information not specified.

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER STRIKES SPAIN;
HORSE DISEASE HITS NEAR EAST

African swine fever, a disease with a 100-percent mortality rate, has invaded a southeast section of Spain. At the same time, deadly African horse sickness has struck vast numbers of horses, mules, and donkeys in the large area from eastern Turkey to India.

The swine fever first entered Portugal, which is reported completely infected.

Since no effective vaccine has been developed to prevent this disease, control depends on elimination of infected or exposed animals and on stringent quarantine measures. The Province of Huelva, just to the south of the infected Spanish area, is one of Spain's major pork-producing centers and extension to this region would cause serious losses.

African swine fever until recently has been confined to Africa. Its spread into Europe is a threat to hog production throughout the Continent.

The equine virus disease that has broken out in the Middle East threatens to take a devastating toll of the animals that are a major source of power and transportation for farmers. It is reported that many of Iran's equine numbers have been infected, with heavy mortality. The horsesickness also is now widespread in 8 eastern provinces of Turkey. It is likely to spread toward Europe unless a vaccine barrier is established soon.

The outbreak outside Africa was first discovered last fall in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Dr. E. A. Eichhorn, Chief of the Animal Health Branch for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, has warned that a carefully planned regional campaign to combat this epidemic is necessary to prevent a catastrophe.

Many countries in the Middle East have barred horses and donkeys from crossing their borders, but as African sickness is transmitted by insects, it is feared the disease may spread further to Mediterranean countries; it would seriously affect food production in such countries as Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, and Greece, where agriculture relies heavily on animals.

Dr. B. Howell, a veterinarian consultant from South Africa, where the disease has been a problem for a long time, is now making a general survey in the Middle East and will advise governments on control measures.

U.S. authorities have imposed a 30-day quarantine on horse imports from Africa, Asia, and some Mediterranean countries. Additional measures to prevent spread of the disease into the United States are under consideration.

WEST GERMANY SETS NEW BASIC PRICES FOR IMPORTED WHEAT

The German Import and Storage Agency for Grains and Feeds issued on June 16, 1960, the following directive on imported wheat prices:

The Agency will fix basic prices of all imported wheat, on which "skimmings" will be levied, uniformly on the basis of that of Canadian Manitoba No. 3. Specifically, the basic price of the types of imported wheat other than Manitoba No. 3 will in each case be the sum of the c.i.f. cost plus the "skimming" charge, or import tax, which has been fixed for Manitoba No. 3. The price at which the Agency will release Manitoba No. 3 to the German economy has been fixed at the equivalent of \$2.93 per bushel plus 20 cents per bushel quality surcharge.

This measure represents a change from the previous practice of fixing basic prices for every month. It also fixes the basic prices at a level higher than the 1958-59 average.

Although the regulation appears to be liberal and nondiscriminatory, it creates some problems for U. S. wheat. As the skimming charge is the same for all imported wheat and the basic prices have generally been raised, some millers may substitute less expensive filler wheat for part of their quality wheat purchases.

U. S. WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTS CONTINUE UPTREND THROUGH MAY

U.S. wheat and flour exports during July-May 1959-60 totaled 465 million bushels, up about 15 percent from the 406 million exported in the first 11 months of 1958-59. Wheat exports increased by 46 million bushels and flour by 12 million bushels (grain equivalent).

Larger shipments of wheat to Western Hemisphere countries, Asia, and Africa more than offset the 26.4-million-bushel reduction to Europe. Total European import requirements were less than usual due to a good harvest in 1959. Exports to countries taking substantially more wheat during July-May 1960 follow in million bushels, with comparable figures for the previous season shown in parentheses: Brazil, 32.6 (17.5); Poland, 23.7 (9.5); Korea, 11.3 (7.3); Pakistan, 28.2 (15.3); Turkey, 11.8 (1.0); Egypt, 20.0 (4.9).

Larger shipments of flour to Indonesia (4.3 million bushels, compared with 1,000 bushels the year before) and Egypt (17.9 million bushels, compared with 6.2 million) accounted for most of the increase in flour exports. In contrast, less flour was shipped to Venezuela and the Philippines.

Total wheat and flour exports during 1959-60 fiscal year (July-June) are now estimated at 510 million bushels, 15.6 percent more than during 1958-59.

WHEAT AND FLOUR: U.S. exports by country of destination,
July-May 1958-59 and July-May 1959-60

Country of destination	July-May 1958-59			July-May 1959-60		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
Western Hemisphere:						
British West Indies	20	2,734	2,754	62	1,857	1,919
Central America	1,412	3,484	4,896	2,198	3,460	5,658
Cuba	3,835	2,949	6,784	5,510	2,570	8,080
Bolivia	—	452	452	—	1,788	1,788
Brazil	17,471	—	17,471	32,638	4	32,642
Colombia	3,406	993	4,399	1,419	700	2,119
Peru	5,802	503	6,305	3,877	289	4,166
Uruguay	—	—	—	7,728	26	7,754
Venezuela	3,168	2,365	5,533	7,592	325	7,917
Others	1,875	3,941	5,816	3,909	3,797	7,706
Total	36,989	17,421	54,410	64,933	14,816	79,749
Europe:						
Austria	1,136	136	1,272	1,240	13	1,253
Belgium-Luxembourg	4,206	17	4,223	2,455	18	2,473
France	2,669	11	2,680	—	—	—
Germany, West	15,065	446	15,511	8,779	550	9,329
Greece	1,691	1,242	2,933	128	1,960	2,088
Italy	—	5,102	5,102	546	6,408	6,954
Netherlands	8,020	3,295	11,315	5,513	3,439	8,952
Norway	3,749	712	4,461	2,135	435	2,570
Poland	9,499	200	9,699	23,663	607	24,270
Sweden	2,189	31	2,220	75	42	117
United Kingdom	21,368	2,971	24,339	18,733	767	19,500
Yugoslavia	27,991	3,225	31,216	8,999	2,870	11,869
Others	3,632	723	4,355	2,539	1,847	4,386
Total	101,215	18,111	119,326	74,805	18,956	93,761
Asia:						
Ceylon	—	2,662	2,662	—	2,645	2,645
India	114,165	44	114,209	108,741	116	108,857
Indonesia	—	1	1	10	4,269	4,279
Israel	7,538	186	7,724	7,398	149	7,547
Japan	28,881	2,427	31,308	27,253	3,098	30,351
Jordan	367	571	938	2,128	716	2,844
Korea	7,341	1,839	9,180	11,310	1,549	12,859
Lebanon	2,492	1,633	4,125	701	2,620	3,321
Pakistan	15,309	172	15,481	28,198	227	28,425
Philippines	785	6,648	7,433	1,758	3,914	5,672
Saudi Arabia	56	2,263	2,319	46	2,758	2,804
Syria	—	25	25	2,388	3	2,391
Taiwan (Formosa)	5,709	857	6,566	8,365	531	8,896
Turkey	1,003	—	1,003	11,816	43	11,859
Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia :	—	3,087	3,087	2/	2,343	2,343
Others	2,075	2,023	4,098	956	1,805	2,761
Total	185,721	24,438	210,159	211,068	26,786	237,854
Africa:						
Algeria	1,486	60	1,546	4	170	174
Canary Islands	—	2	2	2,047	3	2,050
Egypt	4,889	6,182	11,071	20,001	17,910	37,911
Ghana	—	1,310	1,310	—	895	895
Morocco	128	16	144	1,794	460	2,254
Nigeria	—	2,000	2,000	—	2,224	2,224
Tunisia	1,733	22	1,755	2,960	39	2,999
Union of South Africa	1,160	—	1,160	1,095	1	1,096
Others	1,370	2,110	3,480	2,274	1,830	4,104
Total	10,766	11,702	22,468	30,175	23,532	53,707
Oceania	—	28	28	—	44	44
Unspecified	—	101	101	—	—	—
World total 3/.....	334,691	71,801	406,492	380,981	84,134	465,115

1/ Wholly of U.S. wheat (grain equivalent). 2/ Less than 500 bushels. 3/ Includes shipments for relief or charity.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

U.S. GRASS AND LEGUME SEED EXPORTS UNREASONABLY HIGH IN MAY

U.S. grass and legume seed exports in May amounted to 4,064,000 pounds, compared with 1,270,000 pounds in May 1959. The unusually large shipments of bentgrass and "other" grasses mainly accounted for the increase. The 2,330,000 pounds of "other" grasses exported was the largest amount in that category for any single month since April 1956.

The 11-month total (July-May) is 42,912,000 pounds, compared with 37,374,000 pounds for the same period last crop year.

During May, France received the largest shipment, while Canada, West Germany, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, received the bulk of the remainder.

GRASS AND LEGUME SEEDS: U.S. exports, May 1960, with comparisons

Kind of seed	May		July 1 - May 31	
	1959	1960	1958-59	1959-60
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Alfalfa, certified	77	161	5,808	5,190
Alfalfa, uncertified	91	48	4,553	3,957
Alfalfa, total	168	209	10,361	9,147
Alsike	0	50	391	389
Ladino	42	149	1,450	1,674
Clovers, other	130	285	3,737	3,196
Bentgrass	146	388	3,450	4,460
Fescue	122	250	3,892	4,548
Kentucky bluegrass	163	120	2,096	673
Orchard	8	50	378	157
Redtop	5	2	414	414
Timothy	62	231	3,047	3,431
Grasses, other	424	2,330	8,158	14,823
Total	1,270	4,064	37,374	42,912

CUBA BUYS PART OF ITS FIRST-QUARTER RICE QUOTA

Trade sources report Cuban purchases through July 14 of approximately 406,000 cwt. of U. S. rice from the first-quarter (July-September) quota of 837,000 cwt. These purchases were on the basis of 10.65 cents per pound, c.i.f. Cuba, less 1 percent.

Impetus was given to the purchase of the first-quarter quota by rumors in the trade that the Cuban Government planned to place the purchase of all essential food stuffs in the hands of the Foreign Commerce Bank (Banco de Comercio Exterior), which it has now done.

The bank is reported to be planning to import a minimum of about 609,000 cwt. of Egyptian rice in 1960. About half of this has either entered Cuba or is being loaded at ports in Egypt. Apparently the poor acceptance of Egyptian rice by the Cuban people has not yet acted as a deterrent to further purchases of Egyptian rice by the Foreign Commerce Bank.

RISE IN SWEDISH MILK OUTPUT CONTINUES

Milk production in Sweden rose to 1,916 million pounds during the first 3 months of 1960, 7 percent above the corresponding period of 1959--chiefly because of more favorable prices and more intensive feeding. Swedish milk production for the January-March period has exceeded output of the same period a year earlier every year since 1956.

The increased milk production boosted output of the major manufactured dairy products. Butter production, which had showed a slight upturn in December 1959 after continued decline in earlier months, rose 7.5 percent to 36.8 million pounds in the first 3 months of 1960. Cheese output, at 27.2 million pounds, was the largest first-quarter output in 9 years and was up 21 percent from the comparable period of 1959.

Output of dry whole milk was 5.2 million pounds through March this year. Nonfat dry milk production was 6.9 million pounds, compared with 2.8 million a year earlier. Condensed milk output dropped 23 percent to 1.3 million pounds.

Exports of butter increased from 15,000 pounds to 2.7 million pounds, with West Germany taking 2.4 million pounds. Among other markets were Algeria, Morocco, Lebanon, and French Equatorial Africa.

Shipments of dry whole milk were 1.4 million pounds; they were 1.3 million pounds in first-quarter 1959. Sweden continued to export to its usual outlets, particularly Switzerland (419,000 pounds), West Germany (257,000 pounds), French West Africa, and Madagascar. However, the largest shipment was to Rumania (502,000 pounds), which purchased no dry whole milk in 1959 and only a little in earlier years.

More than half of the 88,000 pounds of nonfat dry milk exported in the first quarter went to British West Africa. (cont'd.)

Cheese exports dropped from 2.6 million pounds to 1.3 million (79 percent of which was hard cheese). Of total Swedish cheese exports, 577,000 pounds went to Italy; 278,000 to East Germany; 153,000 to West Germany; 145,000 to Algeria; 112,000 to the United Kingdom; and 20,000 to the United States.

Sweden's first-quarter 1960 imports of cheese, mostly hard types, were up 21 percent from a year earlier, rising to 3.4 million pounds. Denmark supplied 1.9 million pounds. The balance came largely from the Netherlands, Finland, Switzerland, Norway, and Italy.

Nonfat dry milk imports rose from 66,000 pounds to 630,000 pounds, of which the United States supplied 620,000 pounds. Dry whole milk imports declined from 463,000 pounds to 16,000 pounds and came mostly from West Germany, the Netherlands, and the United States.

Sweden's condensed milk imports rose 21,000 pounds to 76,000. Denmark supplied 74,000, and the Netherlands and Norway the rest.

Imports of butter in the January-March period fell to only 4,00 pounds--all from Denmark--compared with 5.3 million pounds from all sources in the first quarter of 1959.

ARGENTINA PLANS ON FLAXSEED EXPORTS; REDUCES EXPORT TAXES ON EDIBLE OILS

The Argentine Government has announced that local crushing mills will be assured of at least 500,000 metric tons of flaxseed out of the current 1959-60 crop of 825,000 tons. Most of the balance of the crop will be available for export.

For every ton of linseed oil exported, 1 ton of flaxseed may be exported. Under this 1-for-1 provision, about 200,000 tons each of linseed oil and flaxseed might be available for export. Seed, waste, and domestic use of linseed oil is small.

Under Argentina's retention system, export prices are established by the government simply as a basis on which to apply a tax, the actual selling prices being established in the market place. In the case of oilseeds and oils, the exporter until this month (July) had to pay 20 percent of the basic price plus an 8-percent export sales tax. Now, the retention on sunflower seed oil has been lowered to 10 percent but no change has been made in the sales tax. The retention and sales tax have not been changed on flaxseed and linseed oil.

The retention on peanut oil has been removed and the sales tax reduced to 4 percent. This 4-percent tax will also apply to domestic sales of peanut oil. Domestic sales of peanut oil were not taxed previously. These changes in taxes on peanut oil will put the exporter in a better position to bid on the domestic market for the available supplies of peanut oil.

PHILIPPINE COPRA AND COCONUT OIL EXPORTS
UP ONE-HALF IN FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Philippine exports of copra and coconut oil in January-June reached 254,344 long tons, oil basis, an increase of over one-half from those of the first 6 months of 1959. Copra shipments were up 70 percent, while coconut oil exports fell one-third. Shipments of desiccated coconut totaled 25,588 short tons, an increase of 20 percent from the first half of 1959. The copra export price in mid-June was about \$162.00 per long ton f.o.b. Philippine ports. Local buying prices were reported at 37 to 38 pesos per 100 kilograms (\$187.97 to \$193.05 per long ton) resecada Manila and 30 to 40 pesos (\$152.41 to \$203.21) in producing areas.

COPRA AND COCONUT OIL: Philippine Republic, exports by country of destination,
June and January-June 1959 and 1960

Country of destination	June		January-June	
	1959 <u>1/</u>	1960 <u>1/</u>	1959 <u>1/</u>	1960 <u>1/</u>
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
COPRA				
North America:				
United States.....	19,500	33,145	132,463	160,405
Atlantic Coast.....	(---)	(---)	(---)	(---)
Pacific Coast.....	(19,500)	(33,145)	(132,463)	(160,405)
Total.....	19,500	33,145	132,463	160,405
South America:				
Colombia.....	---	3,050	---	5,050
Venezuela.....	2,000	1,500	9,872	21,452
Total.....	2,000	4,550	9,872	26,502
Europe:				
Belgium.....	1,000	---	1,000	1,500
Denmark.....	---	5,100	1,990	9,100
Germany, West.....	2,500	500	18,330	9,000
Italy.....	---	2,000	---	3,000
Netherlands.....	2,500	12,850	44,814	99,100
Norway.....	1,000	500	1,500	4,500
Spain.....	---	---	3,500	---
Sweden.....	1,000	5,500	2,000	12,750
Optional discharge <u>2/</u>	---	<u>3/</u> 9,050	379	<u>4/</u> 42,200
Total.....	8,000	35,500	73,513	181,150
Asia:				
Japan.....	---	---	---	1,492
Lebanon.....	---	---	---	1,000
Syria.....	---	---	1,500	---
Total.....	---	---	1,500	2,492
Grand total.....	29,500	73,195	217,348	370,549
COCONUT OIL				
North America:				
United States.....	5,829	4,981	25,605	20,898
Atlantic Coast.....	(5,829)	(4,381)	(23,199)	(19,352)
Pacific Coast.....	(---)	(600)	(2,406)	(1,546)
Total.....	5,829	4,981	25,605	20,898
Europe:				
Netherlands.....	500	---	5,814	---
Total.....	500	---	5,814	---
Grand total.....	6,329	4,981	31,419	20,898

1/ Preliminary.

2/ West Germany, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, or Italy.

3/ Includes 6,600 tons to "Europe unspecified".

4/ Includes 11,300 tons to "Europe unspecified".

Source: Philippine trade sources.

COLOMBIA ENCOURAGES OIL PALM AND COCONUT EXPANSION

The Colombian Agricultural Bank and the National Cotton Institute of Colombia recently signed a contract to promote jointly the production of palm oil and coconut oil.

The Agricultural Bank will provide needed credit and the Cotton Institute will furnish technical assistance and install nurseries for African oil palm and coconut seedlings. To assure a market for the products, an oil extraction plant will be constructed in the area. The program will be concentrated in the bank's colonization areas which are suitable for growing the palms.

THAILAND APPROVES RUBBER REPLANTING ACT

The Thai Government approves of a Rubber Replanting Act that is expected to go into effect soon. The act imposes a tax on rubber exports, including crepe, scraps, and latex, which will be used to create a fund to assist rubber planters in replacing present trees with higher-yielding plants.

The proposed tax is to be based on the export price of smoked sheets. If the price is not more than 10 baht per kilo (about 22 cents per pound), the tax will be 2.5 cents; when the price is above 10 baht, the tax will be 2.5 cents plus one-tenth of the amount the price exceeds 10 baht.

Five percent of the total tax collected is to be used for research, 5 percent for administrative expenses, and the rest for replanting purposes. A number of rubber replanting acts have been proposed in the past, but this is the first to receive approval.

U. S. COTTON EXPORTS CONTINUE HEAVY THROUGH MAY

U. S. cotton exports (all types) during the first 10 months (August-May) of the 1959-60 season totaled 6,181,000 bales of 500 pounds gross (6,006,000 running bales)--almost $2\frac{1}{2}$ times the 2,517,000 bales exported during the corresponding period of 1958-59.

Exports during May amounted to 541,000 bales, compared with 690,000 bales in April, and 257,000 in May 1959.

Total exports of U. S. cotton this season (August-July) are expected to be around 7 million running bales, compared with 2,800,000 bales in 1958-59. Registrations of cotton for export under the 1959-60 payment-in-kind program totaled 7,007,000 running bales as of July 15. By that date, a total of 689,000 bales had been registered under the 1960-61 program for export on or after August 1, 1960.

COTTON: United States exports of cotton by country of destination,
averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1957 and 1958,
August-May 1958-59 and 1959-60

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of destination	Year beginning August 1					
	Average		1957	1958	August-May	
	1935-39:	1950-54:			1958-59:	1959-60
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
Austria.....	0	38	55	15	13	25
Belgium & Luxembourg.....	169	121	182	49	37	181
Denmark.....	33	29	26	8	7	17
Finland.....	35	13	19	13	13	31
France.....	662	431	367	199	188	609
Germany, West.....	511	382	623	103	95	531
Italy.....	442	379	572	154	138	524
Netherlands.....	107	127	113	21	14	190
Norway.....	17	14	13	1	1	16
Poland & Danzig.....	180	1/	248	93	93	73
Portugal.....	36	7	24	12	12	7
Spain.....	108	142	217	297	296	35
Sweden.....	115	53	130	35	34	95
Switzerland.....	11	42	81	12	10	99
United Kingdom.....	1,346	434	709	210	177	494
Yugoslavia.....	17	86	115	151	117	3
Other Europe.....	2/ 96	8	18	3	2	17
Total Europe.....	3,885	2,306	3,512	1,376	1,247	2,947
Australia.....	9	31	67	40	35	52
Canada.....	301	311	277	89	71	249
Chile.....	9	24	35	3	2	42
Colombia.....	20	30	69	21	21	0
Cuba.....	11	19	46	9	7	35
French North Africa.....	3/	9	11	12	10	10
Hong Kong.....	3/	8	138	125	104	249
India.....	52	253	114	80	63	299
Indonesia.....	3/	19	31	17	11	51
Israel.....	3/	12	18	12	10	16
Japan.....	1,142	871	1,174	544	489	1,574
Korea, Republic of.....	3/	80	207	227	195	242
Philippines.....	2	9	59	97	66	110
Taiwan (Formosa).....	3/	85	110	182	137	164
Union of South Africa.....	3/	6	37	15	13	35
Uruguay.....	1/	2	8	22	16	32
Other countries.....	4/ 158	59	46	24	20	5/ 74
Total 500-lb. bales.....	5,589	4,134	5,959	2,895	2,517	6,181
Total running bales.....	5,300	3,977	5,717	2,789	2,425	6,006

1/ Less than 500 bales. 2/ Includes Czechoslovakia 65. 3/ If any, included in other countries. 4/ Includes China 117, and French Indochina 22. 5/ Includes Ethiopia 15, Thailand 14, and Burma 6.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

U. S. COTTON LINTERS EXPORTS IN MAY SHOW DECLINE

U. S. exports of cotton linters, mostly felting qualities, amounted to 26,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during May, compared with 33,000 bales in April, and 28,000 in May 1959.

Exports of cotton linters during the first 10 months (August-May) of the current season totaled 396,000 bales--up 58 percent from exports of 254,000 bales in the corresponding months of the previous season.

Principal destinations of cotton linters exports from the United States during August-May 1959-60, with comparable 1958-59 figures in parentheses, were: West Germany 219,000 bales (100,000); Japan 83,000 (59,000); United Kingdom 42,000 (39,000); Canada 21,000 (26,000); Netherlands 19,000 (1,000); and France 7,000 (22,000).

HONG KONG IMPORTS MORE U. S. COTTON

Imports of U.S. cotton into Hong Kong during the first 8 months (August-March) of this season increased 86 percent from the same period in 1958-59.

Imports from this country amounted to 136,000 bales (500 pounds gross) or 56 percent of total imports, compared with 73,000 bales or 37 percent of the total a year earlier. Total cotton imports of 241,000 bales during August-March were 22 percent more than the 197,000 bales imported in the same months of last season.

Imports during the full season (August-July) probably will exceed record 1958-59 imports of 300,000 bales by 5 to 10 percent.

Quantities imported from major sources other than the United States during August-March 1959-60, with comparable 1958-59 figures in parentheses, were: British East Africa 44,000 bales (54,000); Pakistan 19,000 (20,000); Brazil 13,000 (11,000); Mexico 9,000 (3,000); India 8,000 (27,000); and Nigeria 6,000 (0).

Hong Kong's cotton consumption of 200,000 bales during the first 8 months of this season was 6 percent above the 188,000 bales used in the same period of 1958-59. This reflects the increased activity in the textile industry since the end of World War II, resulting mainly from an expanding export trade. Hong Kong exported 235 million square yards of cotton cloth during calendar year 1959, against 220 million in 1958.

Cotton stocks on March 31, 1960, were estimated at about 97,000 bales, compared with 56,000 held August 1, 1959.

SUEZ CANAL SOYBEAN SHIPMENTS SIZABLE AGAIN IN MARCH

Oilseed shipments northward through the Suez Canal were relatively large again in March, mainly because of the continued large volume of soybeans from Communist China.

Total oilseed shipments in March were one-fifth above March 1959 and were slightly above February 1960 (see Foreign Crops and Markets, July 4, 1960). Soybean shipments, at 4.7 million bushels, were slightly below the 4.8 million bushels in February, but were one-fourth greater than the volume of March 1959. Although relatively insignificant, cottonseed shipments were up sharply from February.

October-March shipments of oilseeds were one-third greater than those during the first half of the 1958-59 marketing year. Again, soybeans account for most of the increase, although the tonnage of copra also was up sharply.

Soybean shipments in October-March of the current marketing year were 22.6 million bushels, 8.0 million greater than during the corresponding period of the previous year.

October-March peanut shipments were down 10 percent; cottonseed shipments were down almost 50 percent; but flaxseed and miscellaneous oilseeds were somewhat above tonnages of the first half of 1958-59.

OILSEEDS: Suez Canal, northbound shipments, March 1959
and 1960, October-March 1958-59 and 1959-60

Oilseed	March		October-March	
	1959	1960	1958-59	1959-60
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short tons	short tons	short tons	short tons
Soybeans 1/.....	102.5	140.0	438.7	677.9
Copra.....	49.6	60.6	280.0	360.5
Peanuts.....	23.1	20.9	88.2	80.5
Cottonseed.....	17.6	13.2	65.0	35.3
Flaxseed 2/.....	3.3	4.4	15.4	24.3
Other.....	24.3	32.0	115.7	155.4
Total.....	220.4	271.1	1,003.0	1,333.9

1/ To convert to bushels use 33.3 bushels per short ton. 2/ To convert to bushels use 35.7 bushels per short ton.

Suez Canal Authority, Monthly Bulletin (Cairo, Egypt).

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